

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSION**

ORDER OF PRIVATE REPRIMAND

The Commission issues this order of private reprimand to a judge for violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct, SCR 4.300, Canon 3B(4).

Canon 3B(4) requires a judge to be patient, dignified and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers and others with whom the judge deals in an official capacity. The judge in question had two interactions with individuals in court that were inconsistent with this rule.

In the first instance, the judge made inappropriate comments from the bench regarding an individual's personal life and living circumstances. The comments were wholly unrelated to the matter before the judge. In the second incident, the judge made demeaning comments from the bench about an individual, which were unnecessary in deciding the matter before the court.

The judge recognizes that such comments are improper and unbecoming a member of the judiciary. The judge has committed to correcting this behavior and has agreed to taking additional corrective action, including case reporting and monitoring for six (6) months. The Commission appreciates the judge's candor and willingness to address these issues. Nevertheless, based upon the foregoing conduct, the judge is hereby privately reprimanded.

In issuing this private reprimand, the Commission duly considered that the judge fully cooperated in the investigation.

Date: 6/13, 2017


Stephen D. Wolnitzek, Chair